GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3485
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2003
NATIONAL CULTURE POLICY
RAMSINH PATALIYABHAI RATHWA

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated a National Policy on Culture;

(b) if so, the salient features of the policy;

(c) whether specific provisions are proposed to be incorporated for bringing legislation to protect cultural heritage sites and properties; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) to (d): No formal policy document has been formulated. However, the `Mission` of the Government includes protection and preservation of all protected monuments and all forms of cultural assets and heritage, both tangible and intangible. For the protection of cultural heritage sites and properties, necessary legislation already exists. The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 were enacted for the above purpose. A number of institutions such as the Archaeological Survey of India, National Archives of India, Anthropological Survey of India, Institutes of Buddhist and Tibetan Studies, National Museums, Libraries, Akademies - Sangeet Natak, Lalit Kala, and Sahitya - and National School of Drama have been constituted for this purpose. In addition, the Government is providing grants under various schemes to individuals and institutions including registered societies, trusts and Non-Governmental organ! isations for achieving the above policy objectives.